

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 8, wherein the contact plate is additionally positively held in frame.

5-7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) Device for receiving PTC elements in a heating device, having an insulating frame having parallel, spaced longitudinal struts and longitudinally spaced crossbars linking the longitudinal struts, and at least one electrically conductive contact plate held in said insulating frame and on which can be placed the PTC elements, the longitudinal struts and longitudinally spaced crossbars surrounding recesses for receiving the PTC elements, wherein the contact plate is molded in the frame and, at least in a limited longitudinal portion of the frame, the contact plate is completely and tightly surrounded by the frame such that the at least one electrically conductive contact plate cannot be drawn out of the insulating frame without damaging the insulating frame, and wherein the contact plate projects past the frame at at least one end of the frame.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 8, wherein the projecting end or ends of the contact plate are constructed as terminal lugs.

11. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 8, wherein the frame is made from at least one material selected from the group consisting of plastic, polymer ceramic, and moulded-on ceramic.

12. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 11, wherein on a side of the contact plate remote from a reception side for the PTC elements, the frame is completely closed and consequently the contact plate is provided with a covering completely covering the same.

13. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 11, wherein on its side remote from the reception side for the PTC elements, the contact plate is covered by a polymer ceramic or ceramic cover layer, whilst the rest of the frame is made from plastic or polymer ceramic.

14-30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 8, wherein bulges, projecting over at least one side of the frame are constructed on the frame for frictionally holding the frame in a profile tube.

32-41. (Canceled)

42. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 8, wherein the frame is made from at least one material selected from the group consisting of plastic, polymer ceramic, wherein, over most of its length, the contact plate is held in grooves of the frame formed in longitudinal struts, and wherein on its side remote from the reception side for the PTC elements, the contact plate is covered by a polymer ceramic or ceramic cover layer, whilst the rest of the frame is made from plastic or polymer ceramic.

43-45. (Canceled)

46. (Currently Amended) A device for receiving PTC elements in a heating device, comprising:

an insulating frame having parallel, spaced longitudinal struts extending in a longitudinal direction of the insulating frame and longitudinally spaced crossbars extending perpendicularly to the longitudinal struts and linking the longitudinal struts, wherein the longitudinal struts and longitudinally spaced crossbars define and surround spaced recesses in the insulating frame in which PTC elements can be held; and

at least one electrically conductive contact plate held in the insulating frame on which PTC elements provided in the recesses of the insulating frame

can be placed, the at least one electrically conductive contact plate having
opposed first and second major surfaces and opposed longitudinally extending
side edgesnarrow sides joining the opposed first and second major surfaces;
wherein the longitudinal struts of the insulating frame completely and
tightly surround most of the length of the longitudinally extending side edges
narrow sides of the at least one electrically conductive contact plate such that the
at least one electrically conductive contact plate cannot be drawn out of the
insulating frame without damaging the insulating frame.

47. (New) A device for receiving PTC elements in a heating device,
comprising:

an insulating frame having parallel, spaced longitudinal struts extending in
a longitudinal direction of the insulating frame and longitudinally spaced
crossbars extending perpendicularly to the longitudinal struts and linking the
longitudinal struts, wherein the longitudinal struts and longitudinally spaced
crossbars define and surround spaced recesses in the insulating frame in which
PTC elements can be held; and

at least one electrically conductive contact plate held in the insulating
frame on which PTC elements provided in the recesses of the insulating frame
can be placed, the at least one electrically conductive contact plate having
longitudinally extending side edges;

wherein the longitudinal struts of the insulating frame completely and
tightly surround most of the length of at least one of the longitudinally extending

side edges of the at least one electrically conductive contact plate and wherein the at least one electrically conductive contact plate cannot be drawn out of the insulating frame without damaging the insulating frame.

48. (New) A device for receiving PTC elements in a heating device, comprising:

an insulating frame having parallel, spaced longitudinal struts extending in a longitudinal direction of the insulating frame and longitudinally spaced crossbars extending perpendicularly to the longitudinal struts and linking the longitudinal struts, wherein the longitudinal struts and longitudinally spaced crossbars define and surround spaced recesses in the insulating frame in which PTC elements can be held; and

at least one electrically conductive contact plate held in the insulating frame molded around the contact plate on which PTC elements provided in the recesses of the insulating frame can be placed, the at least one electrically conductive contact plate having opposed first and second major surfaces and opposed longitudinally extending narrow sides joining the opposed first and second major surfaces;

wherein the longitudinal struts of the insulating frame completely and tightly cover most of the length of the longitudinally extending narrow sides of the at least one electrically conductive contact plate and wherein the at least one electrically conductive contact plate cannot be drawn out of the insulating frame without damaging the insulating frame.

49. (New) A device for receiving PTC elements in a heating device,
comprising:

an insulating frame having parallel, spaced longitudinal struts extending in
a longitudinal direction of the insulating frame and longitudinally spaced
crossbars extending perpendicularly to the longitudinal struts and linking the
longitudinal struts, wherein the longitudinal struts and longitudinally spaced
crossbars define and surround spaced recesses in the insulating frame in which
PTC elements can be held; and

at least one electrically conductive contact plate held in the insulating
frame molded around the contact plate on which PTC elements provided in the
recesses of the insulating frame can be placed, the at least one electrically
conductive contact plate having longitudinally extending side edges;

wherein the longitudinal struts of the insulating frame completely and
tightly surround most of the length of at least one of the longitudinally extending
side edges of the at least one electrically conductive contact plate and wherein
the at least one electrically conductive contact plate cannot be drawn out of the
insulating frame without damaging the insulating frame.

50. (New) A device for receiving PTC elements in a heating device,
comprising:

an insulating frame having parallel, spaced longitudinal struts extending in
a longitudinal direction of the insulating frame and longitudinally spaced
crossbars extending perpendicularly to the longitudinal struts and linking the

longitudinal struts, wherein the longitudinal struts and longitudinally spaced crossbars define and surround spaced recesses in the insulating frame in which PTC elements can be held; and

at least one electrically conductive contact plate held in the insulating frame molded around the contact plate on which PTC elements provided in the recesses of the insulating frame can be placed, the at least one electrically conductive contact plate having opposed first and second major surfaces and opposed longitudinally extending narrow sides joining the opposed first and second major surfaces;

wherein the longitudinal struts of the insulating frame completely and tightly cover most of the length of the longitudinally extending narrow sides of the at least one electrically conductive contact plate, wherein the at least one electrically conductive contact plate cannot be drawn out of the insulating frame without damaging the insulating frame, and wherein the sides of the longitudinal struts and/or of crossbars facing the spaced recesses are provided with bulges for frictionally retaining the PTC elements inserted in the recesses.